

Robert H. Champlin Memorial Library



Frances Farrell-Bergeron, Library Director

February 24, 2003

Anne T. Parent, Chief of Library Services
Office of Library and Information Services
RI Department of Administration
One Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908

Dear Anne,

How can I express the importance of OLIS's Supervisor of Media Services, Joseph P. McGovern, to the cable television program, "Library TV?" His role in this joint venture of the Rhode Island Library Association (RILA) and OLIS is so crucial that we simply could not produce the show without him.

Over the years our crew has mostly come from the staffs of libraries around the state, and we're so grateful for their dedication and the libraries' support. But Joe's technical ability, keen eye for the best camera shot, and countless hours of post-production work are what gives LTV its overall professional quality. Joe's participation is made possible by OLIS, for which we're extremely grateful.

RILA's Public Relations Committee has been producing and airing LTV since September 1993. Over the course of ten years we have produced over 80 shows and managed to throw a spotlight on a variety of libraries and library services and issues. Here is a brief list of some topics we've covered: The Role of the Public Library Trustee, Literacy, Summer Reading, CLAN, Rhode Island Historical Society Library, Medical Libraries in RI, Special Collections in the East Greenwich Public Library, Special Collections at Newport Public Library, Special Collections at Providence Public Library, Using the RI State Law Library, Discovering the Providence Athenaeum, The John Hay Library at Brown University, Small Libraries in RI, Library Buildings, Central Falls Public Library and its Civil War Connection, Public Libraries and the Internet, Johnson & Wales University Library, Talking to a Library Legend (featuring Peg Deignan), The Redwood Library, and quite a few programs featuring librarians talking about their favorite books.

WEST WARWICK PUBLIC LIBRARY

1043 Main Street
West Warwick, Rhode Island 02893
401-828-3750

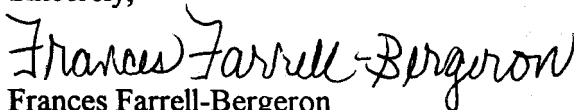
We know we have an audience. People who have been guests on the show report to us that they are frequently greeted in their libraries, on the street, in the supermarket, with the words: "Hey! I saw you on TV!" When we display a name or address or phone number for people to use in order to get more information, they contact us. And the most overwhelming response is to our book discussion shows. We usually offer to send a list of the books discussed to anyone interested; and we always get requests for the lists as well as some wonderful words about the show.

LTV is shown at least three times weekly on State Interconnect Channel A. We have been told that the technicians in charge of scheduling shows for times that are not already taken like to choose our shows because of their high production values—and Joe McGovern is responsible for that. We are fortunate to have him as our director and editor. He has spent countless hours on location, in the editing room and working with the character generator, making sure that people's names and titles can be seen at the appropriate times, shooting and choosing footage for cutaways and close-ups.

LTV has received three awards. In 1997 the New England Chapter of Women in Cable and Telecommunications honored us for Programming Hosted by a Woman; Cox Cable, as part of its PEG (Public/Educational/Government) awards, named LTV Best Education Program in 2000; in 2001, we received honorable mention in the same category.

Without Joe's expertise, we could never have even begun LTV, and would therefore not have been able to use this most important communication method to inform and entertain Rhode Islanders about their libraries. And the value of that is inestimable. We are grateful to OLIS for having assigned Joe to this vital public relations effort on behalf of Rhode Island's libraries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frances Farrell-Bergeron".

Frances Farrell-Bergeron
RILA Public Relations Committee
Producer/Host LTV